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Response Under 37 CFR §1.116
Expedited Procedure Requested
Examination Group 1725



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Applicant : North et al.
Serial No. : 09/772,708
Filed : January 30, 2001
Title : WELDING ELECTRODE AND METHOD FOR REDUCING
MANGANESE IN FUME
Docket : 483471-003
Examiner : Elve, Maria Alexandra
Art Unit: : 1725

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
APR 11 2003
GROUP 1700

Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested in view of the following discussion.

Please rewrite claims 1, 3, 7, and 8 as follows:

1. A cored electrode for arc welding, said electrode having a core in which the fill material includes a manganese-containing composite particle wherein the composite particle contains manganese in admixture with a shielding material.
3. The electrode of claim 1 wherein the shielding material is TiO_2 .
7. The electrode of claim 1 wherein the composite particle contains manganese encapsulated in a coating of said shielding material.